

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for providing an optical networking scheme that provides working and protect paths to address failures of optical lines and components, is provided. An optical sub-assembly has an optical signal separated into a first sub-band and a second sub-band. A working path propagates through the optical network. The working path operates only in the first sub-band. A protect path propagates through the optical network, operating only in the second sub-band. A first module disposed along the working path affects the working path, and a second module disposed along the protect path affects the protect path.